

RIFLE SHOT PROVES FATAL

Girl Accidentally Shot Wednesday Expires While on Way to the Hospital

Ahmata Estes, who was accidentally shot Wednesday afternoon as reported in the Daily Citizen, died while she was being brought into town to the hospital. The bullet, which was from a .22 calibre target rifle had entered her brain. Oliver, her brother, was taking the gun cartridges out of the magazine, and without knowing that there was a shell in the chamber, he snapped the hammer. Another brother was in the room at the time.

Ahmata, who was born June 4, 1908, was the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Estes. They have six sons, three of who are still in France, and the little girl was the idol of the family. It will be a sad home-coming to the boys across the ocean, who have passed uninjured through the thickest of the fighting in France, and whose letters always tell of the joy they have anticipated in coming back to home and little Ahmata.

The funeral will be held from the colored Baptist church in Baxter Springs tomorrow at 2 p. m. Rev. P. C. Tuggle will officiate.

NEW MOVE IN GAS CASE

Washington, April 15.—On the ground that the supreme court's opinion was indefinite, leaving the lower court in doubt as to what future steps should be taken in order to conform to the judgment, petitions were filed today asking for rehearing in the Kansas gas cases, decided on March 17. The petitioners are John M. Landon, receiver of the Kansas Natural Gas Co., and other receivers involved in the proceedings which affect about fifty Missouri and Kansas gas companies.

In disposing of the case, the supreme court set aside federal court decrees which held that the companies were engaged in interstate commerce and which enjoined state officials from interfering with rates which had been fixed by the court under receivership proceedings.

Members of the Kansas public utilities commission feel that the supreme court will deny the rehearing of the gas case. They will endeavor to make sure by vigorously contesting the motion. In case the rehearing is denied the commission will enforce gas rates fixed by the commission.

STILL UP IN THE AIR

The state highway commission has taken up with the department of agriculture the question of allowing federal aid for roads that really are a part of the right-of-way of the Union Pacific railway. West of Salina the right-of-way claimed is about 400 feet wide, and in most of the counties the principal roads are in the right-of-way, the counties having a long-time lease for the roads. In the answer received yesterday the decision is that right-of-way is for railroad purposes only. The department of agriculture, however, gives the information that the situation concerning leases in each county will have to be decided on individual merits. Final decision is reserved until after petitions of counties for federal aid are forwarded to Washington.

HAIL FORECAST FOR APRIL

We notice from the April forecast of Prof. Albert Porta, the noted sun spot wizard, that from April 27 to 30 a warm wave with sultry conditions will assemble in this part of the country, later accompanied with hail, lightning and tornadoes. This warning should be kept in mind.

We are writing Hail Insurance. Your wheat is worth too much to neglect having it insured. Telephone 296 we will protect you. Treece Realty Co.

THREE DEAD

Three deaths occurred Tuesday in the Picher mines. Benjamin Emerson and N. Lowder, two miners working in the Keltner mine in East Picher, were killed by a slash of dirt falling upon them. Harry Hall, of Carthage, was also killed by accident in the engine room of the Goodwin mine by being caught in the belt of a wheel.

DISTRICT COURT AGAIN IN SESSION

One Divorce Was Granted and Several Motions Were Disposed of Wednesday

Galena, Kan., April 17.—District court convened here again Wednesday with Judge Rosa presiding and a number of motions were heard. The divorce suit of Faye McKimney against Roy McKimney was dismissed from court by agreement of both plaintiff and defendant.

A motion in the case of E. R. King against E. H. Seavers to relax the costs was entertained and the case continued to April 30.

A motion for a new trial in the case of Nancy and Hattie Etter against Fred and Earl Childress was overruled. A decision in the case a short time ago was in favor of the defendants.

In the case of Lee Kester against the American Gas company, a damage suit in which the plaintiff was given judgment, the defendant was given until April 25 in which to appeal the case.

A motion for a new trial in the case of Samuel Turner against the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company was overruled. Turner sued for \$6,000 for the death of his daughter and was awarded \$2,000.

In the case of J. W. Keys against Abram Dardenne, and in which the plaintiff was given judgment for \$3,750, the defendant was given thirty days in which to appeal the case.

A divorce was granted Mrs. Lizzie Bench from W. L. Bench on the grounds of gross neglect of duty. Her maiden name, Miss Lizzie J. Stewart was restored.

WHAT WILL SAVE KANSAS?

By William A. McKeever, University of Kansas

Can the Sunflower State hold its reputation of being a virile and courageous young industrial democracy? Can we maintain our reputation abroad, of being the state of fresh, new vigorous ideals? The state which originates and puts through more progressive measures than any of the others? There are signs that we are slipping—too much oil, gas and other rich mineral resources; too much hoarded wealth and easy living; too much upholstery for our growing boys and girls; too much education for places of ease and refinement; too many young farmers moving into town to bring up the family and take things easy.

We must either have a new course of instruction for the young and a new set of ideals for the schools or else drift down to a basis of lazy easy-going moral and civic indifference. When the war struck the country it was found that Kansas already had nearly her full quota of soft, flabby muscled, under-developed young men. Shall we now slip back to that flimsy situation? Nothing other than a rigorous course in physical, industrial and spiritual discipline for all our youth will serve to keep the Sunflower State young and virile: As—

1. To train every Kansas child to work with his hands and to engage briefly in some kind of productive industry.

2. To train every young person to take care of his own body and his own health and to keep himself in every way physically superb.

3. To bring all our young into close sympathy with the great agricultural traditions and interests of Kansas, by requiring every boy and girl to learn the rudiments of the farming industries.

4. To teach and exalt in every grade of the schools the ideal that common work is a basic need of every growing life, and that Kansas is to continue as a great industrial and agricultural commonwealth and as an aggressive contributor to a mighty industrial democracy of the nation and of the world.

5. To make rural life for the Kansas young people first of all an affair of social and spiritual charm, and foster that a matter of producing food and increasing farm wealth.

"Have you cultivated an acquaintance with your new neighbor?" we asked Old Jerry Sniffles, the town grouch. "No, but I carried him when I asked to borrow his safety razor."

GENEVA AND GINEVRA!

Beautiful But Sad Story Surrounding the Selection of Geneva as the League Capital of the World

Geneva, April 15.—Geneva, picked for the capital of the world, was the seat of the first peace society ever organized in Europe, back in 1830.

Located in a country which was neutral during the great war, Geneva is not far from all of the principal European capitals. Paris is but 500 miles away, London less than 800 and no European capital 2,000 miles away. It is the birthplace of the Red Cross.

It has a history that goes back to the year 1 B. C., when the territory about it became a Roman province. Later it belonged to the Franks and then to the Germans. But in 1631 it became a part of the Swiss confederation, cradle of civil liberty.

From 1841 to 1878 its history was a struggle for progress and progress won. It was among the first to adopt the initiative, the referendum and the recall.

The city of Geneva is located at the head of the lake of the same name, and on both banks of the river Rhone.

The above is the setting for one of the saddest yet most beautiful stories brought about by the selection of Geneva as the world's capital for future peace negotiations. Possibly years after you have read this story, your mind will revert to it as a priceless gem.

Geneva-Ginevra

If ever you should go to Geneva,
Stop at the palace near the Reggio gate,
Dwelt in of old by one of the Donati.
Its noble gardens, terrace above terrace,
And rich in fountains, statues, cypresses,
Will long detain you; but, before you go,
Enter the house—forget it not, I pray you—
And look awhile upon a picture there.

'Tis of a lady in her earliest youth,
The last of that illustrious family;
Done by Zampieri; but by whom I care not.
He, who observes it, ere he passes on
Gazes his fill, and comes and comes again,
That he may call it up when far away.
She sits, inclining forward as to speak,
Her lips half open, and her finger up,
As though she said, "Beware!" her vest of gold,
Brodered with flowers, and clasped from head to foot,
An emerald stone in every golden clasp;
And on her brow, fairer than alabaster,
A coronet of pearls.

But then her face.

So lovely, yet so arch, so full of mirth,
The overflowings of an innocent heart;
It haunts me still, the many a year has fled
Like some wild melody!

Alone it hangs

Over a mouldering heirloom; its companion,
An oaken chest, half eaten by the worm,
But richly carved by Antony of Trent,
With scripture stories from the life of Christ;
A chest that came from Venice, and had held
The dual robes of some old ancestors—
That, by the way, it may be true or false—
But don't forget the picture; and you will not
When you have heard the tale they told me there.

She was an only child, her name Ginevra,
The joy, the pride of an indulgent father;
And in her fifteenth year became a bride,
Marrying an only son, Francesco Doria,
Her playmate from her birth, and her first love.

Just as she looks there, in her bridal dress,
She was all gentleness, all gayety,
Her pranks the favorite theme of every tongue.
But now the day was come, the day, the hour;
Now, frowning, smiling for the hundredth time,
The nurse, that ancient lady, preached decorum;
And, in the lustre of her youth, she gave
Her hand, with her heart in it, to Francesco.

Great was the joy; but at the nuptial feast,
When all sat down, the bride herself was wanting;
Nor was she to be found! Her father cried,
"Tis but to make a trial of our love!"
And filled his glass to all; but his hand shook,
And soon from guest to guest the panic spread.

'Twas but that instant she had left Francesco,
Laughing and looking back and flying still,
Her ivory tooth imprinted on his finger.
But now, alas! she was not to be found;
Nor from that hour could anything be guessed,
But that she was not!

Weary of his life,

Francesco flew to Venice, and embarking,
Flung it away in battle with the Turk.
Donati lived; and long might you have seen
An old man wandering as in quest of something,
Something he could not find, he knew not what.
When he was gone, the house remained awhile
Silent and tenantless; then went to strangers.

Full fifty years were past, and all forgotten,
When on an idle day, a day of search
'Mid the old lumber in the gallery,
That mouldering chest was noticed, and 'twas said
By one as young, as thoughtless as Ginevra,
"Why not remove it from its lurking place?"

'Twas done as soon as said; but on the way
It burst, it fell; and lo! a skeleton,
With here and there a pearl, an emerald stone,
A golden clasp, clasping a shroud of gold.
All else had perished, save a wedding ring,
And a small seal, her mother's legacy,
Engraven with a name, the name of both;
"Ginevra."

There, then, she had found a grave:
Within that chest had she concealed herself,
Fluttering with joy, the happiest of the happy,
When a springlock, that lay in ambush there,
Fastened her down forever!

WHEAT ACREAGE IS ENORMOUS

General Crop Conditions Reported by J. W. Kaltenbach on a Recent Trip Thru the State

J. W. Kaltenbach, of the Baxter Realty Co., has just returned from a trip up into the big grain country of east central Kansas; he reports farming conditions there highly flourishing. The outlook for wheat and oats could not be better; winter has been open and grazing on the wheat has been almost continuous; the wheat is growing so fast and so rank in the bottom lands that in some places it is falling down and a few farmers are mowing the wheat in hopes of keeping it from growing too rank to produce heads.

There is an abundance of moisture and the small grain crop is practically assured. The acre age of wheat is enormous and it strikes him that the farmers, under the government's guarantee of \$2.25, had practically put their eggs all into one basket; if the wheat crop of Kansas for some unforeseen reason is blighted, the loss to many farmers will amount to the full loss of their year's work. Many farmers are not putting in corn, and much talk against kafir and cane forage crops is heard.

The outlook for fruit is good, altho it is claimed the budded peaches have been killed. One week ago a heavy freeze and frost nipped the early potatoes and possibly did some damage to the fruit.

The financial condition of the farmers is good. Notwithstanding last year's drought, the most of them have fared well with wheat and oats and there is a decided increase in the production of livestock, that is, in the lines of cattle and hogs; horses are cheap and not in demand; good horses can be had for \$50 to \$80, while hogs on the local markets in Woodson county were bringing around \$20 per hundred weight; one farmer had sold one hog that netted him about \$70, not so bad for one pig.

Business in industrial lines seems to be at a standstill; many of the big smelters around Needeha and Altona are idle and many homes are empty as a result. The oil fields of Eldorado are slackening off and the Carter Oil Co., one of the largest in that field, has just brought in their last well to be put down for some time; it proved a duster.

Texas is drawing the oil men to that field but the feeling is that when a few of the innocents get their fingers burned (as they always do) the craze for Texas speculation will cool off.

People are not talking politics. They are talking about the president, however, and asking why he doesn't get home and get business here going; the banks are full of money but outside of strict agricultural loans are not putting out much on collateral. The Victory Bond drive will be taken up in a great measure by the banks. If the president and congress will get busy and enact some badly needed legislation that will turn over the wheels of traffic so that the dinner bucket brigades can start their march, then things will adjust quickly and we will begin to enjoy that big prosperity that we have been promised is in store for us.

TO TEST LAW

Judge S. N. Hawkes, assistant attorney general, stated yesterday that the Kansas permanent highway law will be tested in the supreme court.

Frank Field and others brought suit for an injunction in Reno county. The suit was on the assumption that the benefit district clause of the law is defective. The injunction was denied. F. Dumont Smith has written the attorney general's office that those opposed to permanent road building are intimating that they will have court actions that will delay all road-building a matter of two years. The threatened litigation would have an effect on bids for building the roads.

Judge Hawkes wrote Mr. Smith that the best way to have the validity of the law determined was to have a friendly suit filed in supreme court. The probable method will be to have Fred W. Knapp, state auditor, withhold claims of the state highway commission. Then a friendly mandamus proceeding can be brought to determine whether the law holds.

CITY COUNCIL STANDS PAT

Interesting Session City Council Wed. night—To Advise for Bids on Completion of Sanitary Sewer

Wed. night there was something doing down at the city council chamber, the council room being crowded.

The first business before the session was the subject of the deep well for the waterworks, which has now reached a depth of 1,105 feet. At this depth the driller, J. T. Phipps, had not found a sufficient flow of water, and his contract being at an end, he came before the council for instructions. There was due Mr. Phipps \$5,529.60 which the council by an appropriation ordinance paid off. Then the council entered into a new contract with Mr. Phipps at the rate of \$6 per foot to proceed with the depth of the well another 500 feet, or at such shorter depth at the option of the council as to warrant a sufficient volume of water. Mr. Phipps is waiting on some supplies and will resume operations tomorrow.

In the well now going down, the sand in well No. 1 at 960 feet, was not penetrated, altho the wells are only 28 feet apart.

Council Stands Pat

The important question before the council was smoothing out the sewer proposition. Under the advice of Lawyer Cowan of Wichita, the council has no contract at \$2.85 per foot with the Empire construction Co. to complete the sewer system. At the same time the Empire people have an unpaid claim against the city for 912 feet of sewer ditch at \$2.85 per foot which the council desires to pay but cannot at this time without recognizing the validity of the \$2.85 contract, which account if paid, or partially paid, would give the Empire people the right to proceed with the work.

Messrs. M. M. Sweetman, A. F. Earbacher and Mr. Thompson, members of the firm of the Empire Construction Co. of Kansas City, Mo., and also their attorney, E. F. Cameron of Joplin, were before the council. The attorney made a statement of the Empire side of the controversy and said they were ready to lay their cards on the table and get a settlement. Mr. Sweetman also had the floor for a while.

The mayor and council went into a general discussion with the Empire representatives, the mayor and council taking the position that they stood pat on the recommendations of their Wichita attorney. The council was ready to settle with the Empire people if they would relieve the city of any future liabilities; the council would pay the bill and give them the right to come back and be competitor bidders at a future time to complete the sewer system. This proposition was made by City Attorney Rosenstein, but the Empire people rejected this proposition.

Councilman Wells then moved "that it be the sense of the council to advertise for bids until 2 p. m., May 1, for the completion of the uncompleted part of the sewer system of Baxter Springs." This motion was carried unanimously by the council. The city clerk was instructed to advertise the proposition in the Western Contractor, or some other trade paper.

Engineer A. C. Moore was before the council and took part in the discussions. He brought up the question of the tank and tower for the waterworks and gave the council some insight as to where the tank and tower should be erected. He recommended that these be placed in Library Park or some other place south, where the amount of water could be doubled in case of fire. If placed at the pumping station, the tank supply would be cut off by reason of the pumps in the pump house already keeping the main full.

The council would not accept the park site for this and agreed to purchase a site sufficient. A committee composed of Councilman Wells, Lewis and Griffard was named to select a site.

WILL BE AT JOPLIN

The 128th, 129th and 130th Machine Gun Battalions, formerly the 2nd Missouri Infantry, will be permitted to stop over in Joplin at a date to be announced later.